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SOIL • WATER • WOODLAND

WINTER 2012



*Winter 2012*

ANNUAL PLANT SALE EDITION



# AWARDS BANQUET

## SCD Annual Recognition Banquet

The Skagit Conservation District hosted its Annual Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, September 21st at the Sedro Woolley Community Center to honor those who have made significant contributions toward conservation and natural resource enhancement in Skagit County.

**A special thanks to those that contributed to the event:**

- The Big Rock Café & Grocery
- Lincoln Theatre
- The Lunch Box
- The NW Dairy Association
- Skagit County Cattlemen
- Skagit Valley Food Co-op
- Skagit Wild Bird Supply
- The Skagit Conservation District Board of Supervisors
- Stepping Stones Garden
- Work Outfitters

Awards were presented to the following:

**Stephen Farmer – Harry Taggart Inspirational Award**

Congratulations to Stephen Farmer, who was the recipient of the 2011 Inspirational Award. This award recognizes a local volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to our community throughout the year. Stephen is truly an inspiration – after completing the Fall 2008 Watershed Masters program, Stephen has been a consistent source of positive energy, contributing hundreds of volunteer hours for the protection and conservation of our local streams, rivers, and marine waters – and for the health and well-being of our community overall. He has been participating as a Stream Team volunteer since 2008, and currently conducts monitoring with two teams, including the Samish and lower Nookachamps. He has also been active as a Storm Team volunteer, collecting samples during rain events to help establish baseline data in priority watersheds. Since the spring of 2009, Stephen has participated in the Marine Biotoxin monitoring program, going to Guemes Island to collect shellfish samples during low tides through the spring and summer months. Stephen's positive support and enthusiasm for the construction of the Kulshan Bird and Butterfly Garden was also greatly appreciated – Stephen attended most of the numerous work parties to prep and plant the Kulshan Bird and Butterfly Garden and also helped with the painting of the garden fence and arbor. In addition, it was estimated that Stephen has planted over 1,000 trees at work parties hosted by the Skagit Land Trust and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group.

Awards were also presented in the major categories listed as follows:

**CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION:**

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTATION

Harry & Doris Anderson, Brad & Pat Barker, Lon & Tarie Benson, Victor & Linda Benson, Mark Blackwood, Roy & Kim Blumenhagen, Fred Butler, Ken Goodpaster, Don & Lora Helgeson, Chad & Cassandra Hillier, Clarence & Paulette Leslie, Travis & Marla Martinez, Harvey Moyer, Craig Mullen, Mike & Nola Ovenell, Connie Peterson, Kenny & Denise Reijm, Keith & Geri Rubin, Samish Indian Nation, Minnie & Geertruida, Van Der Hoek, Wesen Farms

FIREWISE COMMUNITIES/USA® PROGRAM

Cascade River Park, Diobsud Creek Community, Jenkins Lane

FOREST STEWARDSHIP

C&G Timber, Goodyear Nelson, Hugh Anthony, Keith Johnson, Steve & Brad Johnson, Mark Malone, Linda Olsoe, Jim Owens, Terry Sapp, Ray Taipale

**VOLUNTEER AWARDS:**

BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Casey Bazewick & Kristi Hein, Rich Bergner, Phyllis Dolph, Ann Dursch, Ani Gurnee, Ward Krkoska, Bill & Sue McMoran, George & Sue Mehler, Sue Mitchell, Kathy Orlich, Donna Schram, Becky Stinson, Brigid Stockton, Melissa Thompson, Bud & Sylvia Weber, Linda Zielinski & Pete Larkworthy

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

George Bullock, Stephen Farmer, Lin Folsom, James Fukuyama, Donna Helgeson, Jim Johnson, Nels Lagerlund, Oscar Lagerlund, Lisa Mirante, John Patton, Jack Sekora, Don Stewart

STREAM TEAM MONITORS

SUPER STAR (10 Years of Monitoring):

George Viverette

SHINING STARS (5 Years of Monitoring):

Scott Adams, Gena DiLabio, Terri Dix, Sarah Huntington, Maria Magaña

STORM TEAM

Kurt Buchanan, Stephen Farmer, Lin Folsom, Pete Haase, Jack Middleton, Patrick O'Hearn, Jack Sekora

MARINE BIOTOXIN VOLUNTEERS

Glenda Alm, Chet Bradley, Kurt Buchanan, Jim & Kathy Crone, Chuck Davis, Stephen Farmer, Bud & Cherie Freeman, James Fukuyama, Donna Helgeson, Dick Kent, Robert Knowles, Elaine & Dick Lease, Jack Middleton, Henry & Shirley Nyland, Jessie Sauer, Jon Stables

WATERSHED MASTERS

Pauline Bonner, Anne & David Cohen, Eric Dennis, Linda Herring, Wark Krkoska, Lachelle Lorentz, Sue Mitchell, George & Kascha Newberry, Nancy Richard, James Stavig



Scott Adams and Sarah Huntington received Shining Star awards for 5 outstanding years of service with the Skagit Stream Team.



Chad and Cassandra Hillier received an award for implementing Best Management Practices on their farm. They installed fencing to exclude their cattle from Friday Creek, and a solar powered water pump system to provide water to their cows.



Stephen Farmer, this year's proud winner of the Harry Taggart Inspirational Award, poses with Kristi Carpenter of the Conservation District as they share a bittersweet moment in memory of Patrick Hurley, last year's recipient of the Inspirational Award.



The Skagit County Cattlemen cooked up a tasty bbq'd rib feast for this year's award winners.



Forestry Implementation Award Winners pictured L to R: Linda Olsoe, Jim Owens, Dave Chamberlain, Ray Taipale, Terry Sapp, Mark Malone, and Al Craney from the Conservation District.

# FIELD NOTES

## CREP Project Highlight

(Article submitted by Jacquie Gauthier, Sales Manager, WACD Plant Material Center)

Gazing out over a sea of blue tubes landowner Travis Martinez quietly asks, "... so you think it turned out alright?" Having owned the land since 1993, Travis has dealt with the high water and drainage issues every year while running cattle. The flood waters prove to be problematic for Martinez and adjacent landowners. He decided that the land would be best utilized as habitat, and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) was the answer.

The CREP project is located just east of Sedro-Woolley on the south side of HWY 20 nicely sandwiched between Red Creek and Hansen Creek. Both Creeks annually outgrow their banks filling the adjacent fields with excess water and silt. Hansen Creek is a tributary to the Skagit River and is vital salmon habitat. The

Martinez project will not only enhance the salmon habitat with shade and clean cool water, but will help to minimize flooding in the area. With the long hours contributed by Travis and his crews, as well

as help from the Skagit Conservation District, Farm Service Agency, Skagit River Systems Cooperative and the WACD Plant Materials Center, the project planning, implementation and maintenance has been a great success.

Planting season in the northwest overlaps with flooding season and project planners have many solutions for this depending on the site. Knowing the high flood waters would be an issue; planting mounds were developed. The mounds help keep the plants out of the high water for as long as possible until the plants can become properly rooted and established to withstand the seasonal flooding. This method was only used in the most critical areas as it can be costly. In combination with the mound building, the addition of the correct plants for seasonally flooded areas is extremely important. Species such as Sitka Spruce, Western Red Cedar, Spirea, Black Twinberry, Ninebark, Red Osier Dogwood and a variety of Willows do very well in wet soils. A mix of 14,000 bareroot conifers, shrubs and hardwoods



were planted on the 25-acre site in spring, 2011. The plant material is far beyond peaking out the tops of the 36" protective blue tubes and thriving with only an estimated 5% mortality. "Look at that plant, and that one, and all of those ones!" exclaimed Martinez as he pointed out the tremendous amount of new growth on the plants in one year.

In order to keep the thousands of seedlings alive, proper maintenance of the planting is critical. The trees and shrubs were planted in rows. This makes maintenance easier, particularly for the next 3 years, which is a requirement for CREP projects. Blue tubes have been placed on each plant to discourage wildlife browsing until the plants can become established. The blue tubes also help protect the plant from herbicide and weed-eaters that are necessary to control the invasive Reed Canary Grass and Himalayan Blackberry.

The result of all the hard work just after one season is breathtaking. With two blue herons swooping in and out, dragonflies darting in all directions, frogs burping in the stream and multiple hawks in an almost choreographed display overhead, the restoration efforts are already beginning to function as suitable habitat, while directing the flood waters downstream. This is just the beginning for this wonderful project as maintenance efforts and logistical concerns continue to be ironed out. The lasting product of the hard work will be enjoyed by generations to come.



## Samish River Family Festival: Celebrating the Samish Community and the new Friday Creek Habitat Stewards!

Over 150 Samish neighbors joined in the festivities at Donovan Park on Saturday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the natural and cultural resources of the Samish River and to help kick off the new Friday Creek Habitat Stewards Program! Highlights of the festival included music, hands-on arts and crafts, watershed related demonstrations and activities, educational passport fun, a special visit from Fin the Migrating Salmon, food, sunshine, and great company! The opening ceremony included a welcome by Skagit County Commissioner Ron Wesen, followed by Alison Studley (Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group), Sue Mitchell and Sylvia Weber (co-chairs of the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards), Riane BeCraft (National Wildlife Federation), Donna Schram, (Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team), Judith

Juno (WA State Federation of Garden Clubs), and Kristi Carpenter (Skagit Conservation District). A welcoming "sing-a-long" was led by the Kulshan Stream Team "Salmon Sisters" (Gina DiLabio, Terri Dix, and Maria Magaña) with afternoon music performed by Friday Creek's "homegrown" Memory Tones – Bud & Sylvia Weber & family. The event was hosted by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Skagit Conservation District, Skagit Conservation Education Alliance, Skagit County, the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards, and numerous other partners who provided fun and engaging educational activities for kids of all ages related to water quality, wildlife habitat, shellfish and the Samish River ecosystem.



LEFT: Fin, the giant walk through salmon, came all the way from Chimacum to welcome back the salmon returning to Friday Creek after their long journey to the sea.



Max Lamont makes a bagel bird feeder with the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards to attract birds to his backyard.



Melissa Thompson and Sylvia Weber welcome attendees to the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards booth, where they had the opportunity to learn how to certify their own backyards as a wildlife habitat sanctuary.



"...and then when it rains, pollutants that are on the ground are carried into the nearest stream, river, or drainage ditch ..." Cindy Pierce, Skagit Conservation District, demonstrates the watershed model for County Commissioner, Ron Wesen.



Kids of all ages loved playing the pet poop toss game, scoop it, bag it, put it in the trash, and then wash your hands, lead by Glen "Alex" Alexander, Padilla Bay Research Reserve

## Local Scout Completes Storm Drain Marker Project

Ian Anderson, a sophomore at Burlington-Edison High School, designed and coordinated a project to install over 200 storm drain markers in a large Mount Vernon neighborhood this past October. He carried out his project by recruiting fellow scouts, leaders, and parents to help him. Ian is a member of Troop 4067, and chose the marking project to advance him toward his goal of becoming an Eagle Scout.

Ian contacted the Skagit Conservation District after he had heard about the marking projects that are offered. The District, in partnership with the City of Mount Vernon, assisted Casey with the project by supplying maps and all marking equipment necessary for the job. He devised his plan by choosing a well-populated area of the city with a large number of storm drains available to mark, making it easier for the group to walk their routes and mark the 223 storm drains. His group also distributed close to 400 informational door hangers to the Division Street area residents informing them of the project, as well as explaining the importance of keeping storm drains free of pesticides, oil, and other contaminants that could ultimately pollute our waters, harming wildlife and impairing human health.

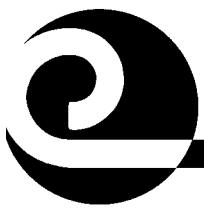
Ian's parents are Jeff and Sharon Anderson of Burlington. The District wishes to thank Ian and his group of volunteers for their hard work in completing this valuable project. For further information about how you can plan such a project or install markers in your neighborhood, please call Cindy Pierce at (360) 428-4313. Marking projects will begin again this spring in the cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon and rural Skagit County areas where appropriate.



ABOVE: The scouts use teamwork to install markers.

RIGHT: Ian Anderson demonstrates proper installation of storm drain markers to his crew.



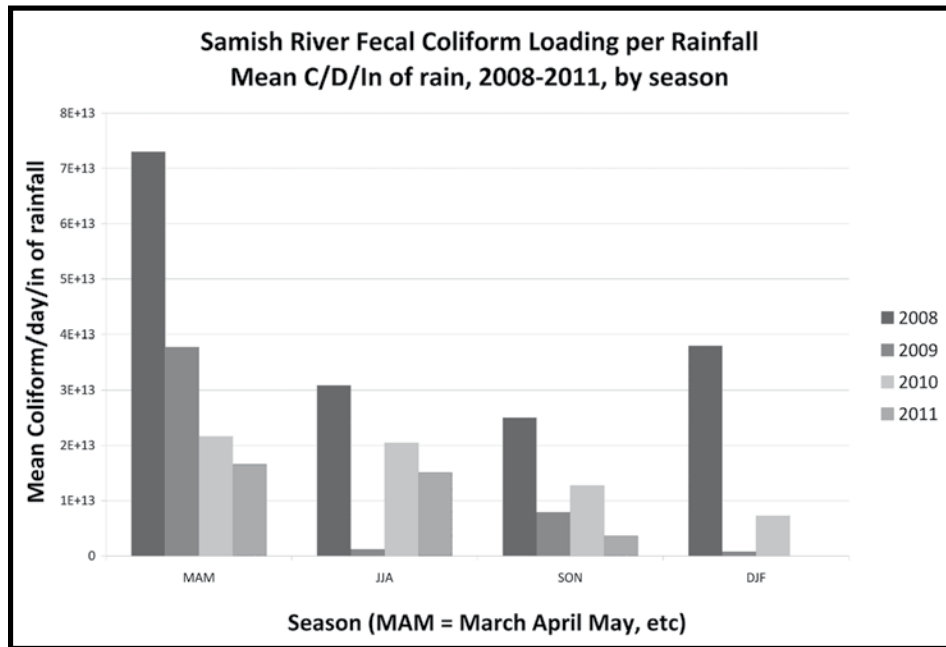


# FIELD NOTES

## Samish Bay Watershed Status Report, 2008-2011

(Information provided by Rick Haley, Water Quality Analyst, Skagit County Public Works)

The following graphs are intended as a status report on the effect of the Samish Bay Watershed cleanup efforts on the fecal coliform counts and bacterial loading in the Samish River system. Although fecal coliform levels are quite variable and dependent on weather conditions, it would appear from these graphs that we are making progress in reducing fecal coliform contamination in the Samish River Watershed.



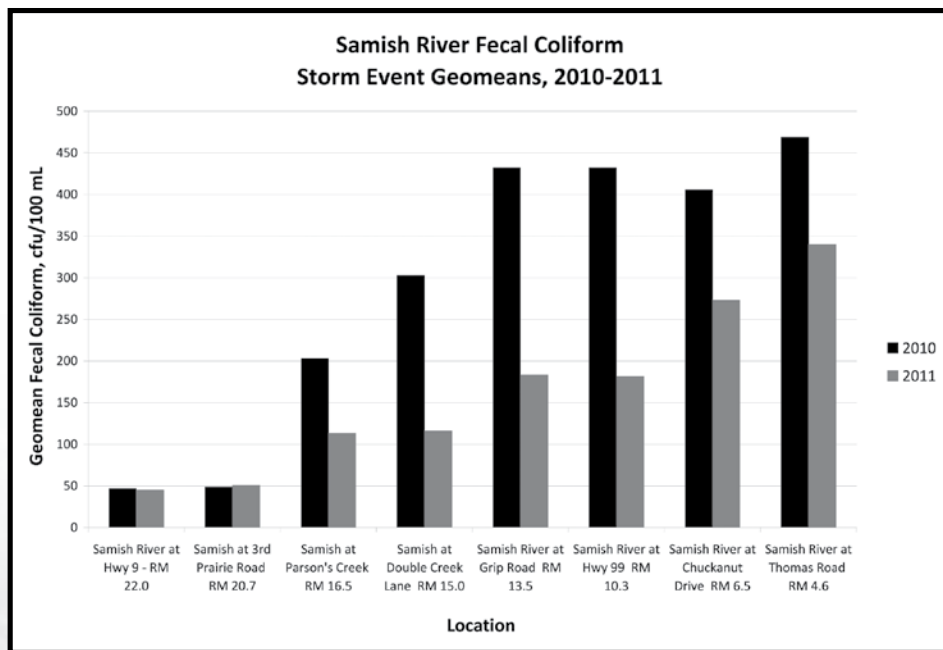
The graphs display different methods of looking at the data and descriptions of each graph are included below.

This graph (at left) shows the loading of bacteria to Samish Bay adjusted for rainfall and displayed by season for each year, 2008-2011. The colonies produced by a given amount of rain varies seasonally, so the graph is divided into seasons that show the biggest differences. The data is then averaged for each year. This graph tells us that the average loading for a

given amount of rain is declining since 2008 for most seasons, especially the critical March-April-May and September-October-November seasons that produce the most shellfish bed closures. In other words, a one-inch rain event produces less bacteria now than it did in 2008.

This graph (at right) illustrates the geometric mean for all storm events at Samish River sites from upstream to downstream. 2011 storm event fecal coliform counts were on average much lower than the 2010 counts.

Although much work remains to be done in the Clean Samish Initiative, there are indications in the water quality data that pollution levels are starting to come down. Skagit County and its partners are committed to finishing the job to ensure clean water and healthy shellfish for everyone.



## The Challenge of MUD

Anyone who raises livestock in Western Washington knows that managing mud and manure during the winter months is a real challenge. Pastures, paddocks and walkways become muddy, and collecting and storing manure is difficult.

Brad and Pat Barker of Conway acknowledged those challenges and decided to find solutions to mud and manure issues on their property. Last spring, the Barkers contacted the Skagit Conservation District requesting assistance with designing and implementing a manure storage structure and a heavy use area protection project (sacrifice area).

The Barkers were already doing an excellent job of collecting the manure produced by their two horses, but wanted to construct a manure storage system that was easy to fill and empty, and an end product that they could utilize as mulch and fertilizer in their flower beds. The decision was to construct a compost system designed with air entrainment to speed up the composting process. The end result was a 3-bin compost facility constructed on a concrete slab. The District provided technical and financial assistance with the slab and the Barkers designed and constructed the compost bins.

With this design, manure is wheeled up a ramp and dumped into the top of one of the bins. Once the first bin is full, then manure is dumped into the next bin. A timer-controlled fan blows air into each of the bins to decrease the time of the composting process. Once the composting process is complete in a bin, the boards are removed from the front of the bin and the finished product is applied to flower beds.

The Barkers' next venture was to improve the existing paddock areas and add an additional paddock. The purpose of the project was to decrease the development of mud and improve the collection of manure. This consisted of removing the old gravel from the existing paddock areas, installing a layer of geotextile fabric, and covering the fabric with six inches of stone sand. An additional paddock (sacrifice area) was also implemented using these materials. The purpose of geotextile fabric is to provide a barrier between the stone sand and the soil while still allowing for proper drainage. Now, manure is easily removed from the paddocks and mud is no longer an issue.

If you are interested in obtaining information about manure storage systems and sacrifice areas, you can contact John Schuh at the Skagit Conservation District by calling (360) 428-4313 or by emailing john@skagitcd.org.



New and improved sacrifice area.

Compost bin.



### WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND AN "ABANDONED" BABY ANIMAL.....

Many State and Federal laws prohibit the keeping of wildlife unless you obtain a license, and not all wildlife needs our help. Wildlife rehabilitators urge well intended "rescuers" to call a center before attempting to do so. It is common for fawns to be left alone for several hours while their mothers forage. Baby birds with feathers spend around three days on the ground as they learn to fly. If an opossum is seven inches from nose to rump, it is old enough to be on its own. Bunny "Moms" only visit the nests at dawn and dusk to feed their young. It is illegal to disturb any marine animal. Baby seals cannot keep up with their mothers as they feed and are safer left on land than unprotected in the water.

**Some points to ponder:**

- Baby wildlife is rarely abandoned in nature
- Baby animals do not need to be protected from the natural dangers in their lives. Pets and cars are a part of an urban/suburban animal's life and they need to grow up and learn how to co-exist with them.
- Feeding cow's milk to wildlife will likely kill them. Only calves and (most) humans can tolerate and digest it.

As "humane" as we humans are, it is important to respect nature and not interfere in the natural predator/prey relationship. Hawks eat squirrels, coyotes eat rodents, and opossums eat baby birds. Call a rehab center and wait for trained staff to advise you how to proceed before "helping" a baby wild animal.

**In Skagit or Whatcom counties:**

**Northwest Wildlife** – 360.966.8845  
email: [nwwildlife@netzero.net](mailto:nwwildlife@netzero.net)  
PO Box 4273, Bellingham, WA 98227  
[www.northwestwildlife.org](http://www.northwestwildlife.org)

**Other Wildlife Centers in Western Washington:**

**Wolf Hollow Wildlife Center** - 360.378.5000  
Friday Harbor – San Juan Island  
[www.wolfhollowwildlife.org](http://www.wolfhollowwildlife.org)

**PAW'S Wildlife Center** – 425.787.2500 ext 817  
Lynnwood, WA [www.paws.org](http://www.paws.org)

**Sarvey's Wildlife Center** – 360.435.4817  
Arlington, WA [www.sarveyswildlife.org](http://www.sarveyswildlife.org)

For more information, check out the websites. See what's on their "wish lists" and how you can volunteer.



# FIRE & FORESTRY



## Firewise: Beyond Skagit County



The Firewise Communities/USA program and concepts have been well received within Skagit County over the last seven years. Communities in Skagit County have adopted the program and tailored it to fit their environment and their needs. But, what does Firewise look like on a grander scale, who is supporting this program, what are the goals of the program on a national level, and how does Skagit County fit into the bigger picture?

In 2009, the Washington State Society of American Foresters took the official position recognizing that the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) zones are increasing and therefore the risks of catastrophic wildfire threatening life, property and infrastructure in Washington State are also increasing. Hence, they advocate for increased awareness, support and commitment from Federal, State, and Local officials and agency leaders to address these risks; as well as increased private and government investment in educating homeowners on defensible space concepts, providing firefighters with the best equipment and training, and expanding efforts to prepare Community Wildfire Protection Plans around the state.

The National Firewise Program (housed under the National Fire Protection Association, NFPA) is celebrating its 10th successful year with 772 communities participating in 40 states (and growing rapidly) and an 80% retention rate. These efforts have resulted in risk reduction for 800,000 residents in fire-prone areas around the country. Since 2003, Firewise Communities have invested a total of \$77,280,055 in local mitigation projects across the country. NFPA has a goal to reach 1,000 Firewise Communities/USA by 2013. (Source: 2011 Executive Summary: Firewise Communities/USA Project Report).



Visit the websites provided to view the presentations:

### Ready, Set, Cut! Rethinking Tree Management Within Defensible Spaces

This presentation reveals the specifics behind the "one solution fits all" answers to how to manage trees in defensible spaces. A GREAT resource for homeowners! <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/ReadySetCut.pdf>

### Fire or Ignition Resistant? Building Materials & Vegetation

The latest research and science on fire and ignition resistance of building materials and vegetation. Photos and information from the specific tests are shown. <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/FireIgnitionResistant.pdf>  
In addition, this is a web link to Wildland Urban Interface products. <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/bml/wuiproducts.pdf>

### Working with Communities While Working for the Environment

A specific example of how a fuels reduction project helped the safety of a community as well as the environment. It is possible! <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/WorkingWithCommunitiesEnvironment.pdf>

### Wildfire Ignition Resistant Home Design

This presentation introduces a new home risk assessment computer model that will be available to the public to use in order to get specific mitigation recommendations for their home and landscape. This software will be available on the firewise.org website February 1, 2012. <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/WildFIREWizard.pdf>

### Hunting for Dollars

This entertaining presentation by a Firewise leader in Colorado gives ideas on how to secure funding to implement Firewise projects; and creative, unique examples of how funding has been used in his successful Firewise Community of Perry Park, Colorado. <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/HuntingforDollars.pdf>

### Brush and Wildland Fires: The Surprising Facts You Need to Know

A presentation on important facts and statistics regarding wildland and brush fires. <http://www.firewise.org/Courses-and-Training/Backyards-and-Beyond/~media/Firewise/Files/Pdfs/Backyards%20and%20Beyond/BrushandWildlandFires.pdf>



With a countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan in place as part of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for Skagit County, and continued implementation of that plan using the Firewise Communities/USA program and concepts, Skagit County communities are working hard toward safety preparedness. In Skagit County safety preparedness is not the only focus under the Firewise Program. There is also a strong focus on healthy forests and healthy watersheds. A healthy forest is less likely to burn and result in WUI disasters, and is one of the foundations for a healthy watershed. The focus on healthy forests as part of wildland fire prevention and mitigation is growing around the country.

"Fire is a natural part of the ecosystem. But when fuel levels are unnaturally high, say after a century of aggressive fire suppression, recent drought, and insect outbreaks that have weakened or killed trees, a spark can lead to a fire much more severe than might have burned through the area historically.

Thinning to reduce stand density is one way to make forests more resilient to fire, drought, and insects. Thinning treatments can be designed to reduce hazardous fuels so that when a fire does ignite, it remains a low intensity surface fire rather than becoming a more severe crown fire, moving through the tree tops. In dense stands, thinning not only lowers the amount of flammable material, it also reduces competition for water and nutrients among the remaining trees so they can better withstand a surface fire". (Source: Science – PNW Research Station, July, 2008)

There are currently 7 recognized Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County and more on the way. Skagit County is a leader in Firewise efforts and has the third highest number of Firewise Communities in the state. Washington State is ranked 2nd in the nation for Firewise Communities/USA participation!

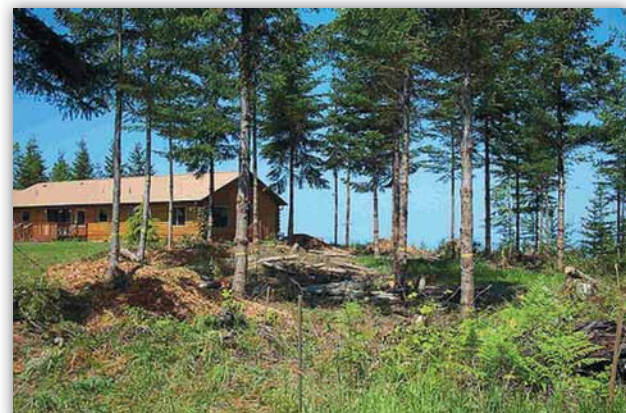
"For at least the next generation the threat of wildfires will be one of the most important fire problems that the world will face, consuming more of our resources than anyone could have imagined just a few years ago. The threat today – to millions of people, to their homes, and to their communities – is exponentially larger than it used to be, and the economic consequences of wildfire over the next several years incalculable. We have to make this a higher priority and we must do it now." (James M. Shannon, NFPA President, NFPA Journal, Special Bonus Issue: NFPA + Wildfire, "The Wildfire Priority", October, 2011.)

As efforts on many levels to increase awareness and participation by communities in wildland fire mitigation and forest health improvement continue to move forward, Skagit County will continue to be a leader and an example for other counties and states across the country. Skagit County's successes are a key component of the larger picture of success around the world as humans learn how best to deal with, and prepare for wildland fires.

The NFPA hosted the Wildland Urban Interface "Backyards and Beyond" Conference during November in Denver, Colorado. At this conference Firewise Community members, Firewise staff, fire managers, fire prevention staff, and natural resource managers from around the country and the world attended and presented the latest physical science, social science, and personal experiences regarding the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). This conference provided an opportunity for all the players in wildland fire mitigation to share information and get a perspective on the big picture of combined efforts. Below is a select list of presentations from the conference that cover various topics including some examples of what other communities are doing with the Firewise Program.



An overstocked stand is less resilient to insects, drought, and fire.



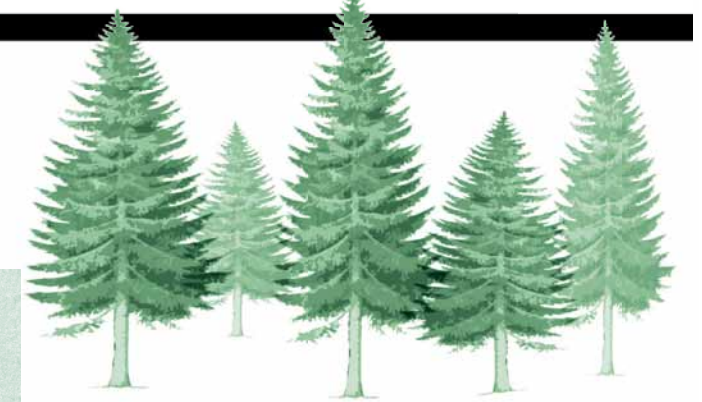
An appropriately thinned stand means reduced competition for water, nutrients, and sunlight, resulting in improved forest health and improved fire resistance.



# SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUMMARY



## 2011 Report of Accomplishments



"In the end, we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, we will understand only what we are taught."  
— Baba Dioum

### Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 22 forest conservation plans written covering 2,428 acres
- 14 forestry conservation practices implemented
- 11 forestry outreach activities



### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 3 new projects planted this past spring totaling 42.8 acres
- 3 new CREP contracts signed
- 563.8 acres of buffer installed to date
- 72,994 (32.8 miles) stream bank feet of riparian restoration installed to date
- 248,255 native trees planted to date



### 2011 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

### Samish Watershed Improvements

Skagit Conservation District (SCD) has been addressing high fecal coliform bacteria levels in the Samish Watershed this year by:

- Providing farm planning and technical assistance to 47 landowners in the watershed
- Completing farm plans for 12 landowners in the watershed
- Planning and designing 12 structural best management practices (BMPs)
- Providing assistance in the implementation of 13 structural BMPs
- Providing \$39,470.27 in cost share for the implementation of the 13 structural BMPs
- Publishing and distributing 3 Samish newsletters reaching 6,072 residents
- Hosting 8 educational workshops for Samish residents – 198 attendees
- Hosting educational displays at 8 educational events with approximately 787 one-on-one contacts



Solar Water Pump



### Environmental Education

- 800+ students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May
- 500 tree seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day
- A community proclamation in recognition of "Soil and Water Stewardship Week" televised, presented, and signed at a Skagit County Commissioners' meeting in April
- 158 posters entered for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth grades K-12
- Hosted educational displays and distributed educational and program promotional materials at 3 farm locations at the Skagit County Festival of Family Farms – 5,000+ attendees combined for these locations
- Recruited 136 volunteers and 17 resource agencies/organizations to host displays for the 8th annual Samish Bay Bivalve Bash and Mud Run
- Hosted an educational display with a cow-milking contest at the Skagit County Fair in August



### Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- 2211 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers, and 500 educational door hangers distributed
- 32 stormwater education presentations provided to over 800 county students
- 8 LID presentations given to 200 people
- 1 rain garden workshop held with 45 attendees



### Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- 20 community volunteers participated in the 2011 sampling season
- 84 sampling events conducted by volunteers at 10 recreational shellfish harvesting beaches



### Purchased Development Rights Monitoring

- Assisted the Farmland Legacy Program by monitoring approximately 82 projects totaling 8,641 acres under easement with status reviews conducted

### Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 16 small farm plans completed
- 70 small farm landowners assisted
- 1 new dairy plan approved
- Implementation of 2 dairy nutrient management plans
- 2 nutrient management plan updates completed
- 9 commercial livestock operations assisted
- 4 commercial livestock operation conservation plans written
- 22 structural BMPs implemented utilizing \$57,303.00 in cost-share funds



### Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 1 new certified Firewise Communities/USA bringing the total to 7 certified Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County
- WA State ranks 2nd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA
- 4 home wildfire risk assessments completed
- 2.0 acres of fuels reduction completed with 10 homeowners participating
- 1 community level wildfire risk assessment completed
- 3 Firewise presentations and outreach events conducted with 100 participants
- The production of the first Skagit County Firewise video
- 1 updated Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Wildfire Awareness Week Proclamation televised, presented, and signed at the Skagit County Commissioners' meeting in May



### Professional Engineering

- Advisory on 5 project designs, which included restoration in Cottonwood Island Slough, Shannon Point riprap removal, and Marsh Pond fish passage project
- 3 irrigation pipeline designs for Western WA Ag. Assoc. and Skagit Drainage and Irrigation Improvement District No. 15
- Served on 3 technical committees, including the Salmon Recovery Funding Board Technical Review Panel



### Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- 41 individuals completed the Spring 2011 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course
- Formation of the new Friday Creek Habitat Stewards group
- Provided presentations on Backyard Conservation practices at 7 events, reaching over 224 people



### District Media

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters distributed to over 4,600 readers
- Skagit Conservation District website maintained – www.skagitcd.org

### Skagit Stream Team

- 74 volunteers are participating in the 2011/12 Stream Team Program
- 11 Storm Team volunteers are monitoring 20 stations in the Bay View/No Name drainages
- 54 stations, located in the Padilla Bay, Samish, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Basin, Gages Slough, Clyde Creek and Nookachamps basins, are monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity twice a month
- 1,177 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2010/2011 monitoring season
- Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed



### Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 17 individuals completed the fall of 2011 Watershed Masters Training Program, bringing the total participants to date to 435
- 3,266 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2011, bringing the total hours to over 28,382
- Over 100 sustainable backyard practices employed and reported by Fall 2011 graduates



Special thanks to all our partnering organizations who helped make the Skagit Conservation District's efforts toward conservation, protection, and enhancement of the natural resources of Skagit County a huge success in 2011!



2011 Native Plant Sale



Restoration Planting



Backyard Conservation



Fencing Project



2011 Poster Contest Winner



Hazardous Fuels Reduction



## Thank You Fall 2011 Watershed Master Graduates!

Congratulations and a special thank you to each of our Fall 2011 Watershed Master Graduates! The Watershed Masters Volunteer Training program is an intensive 8-week course offered annually by the Skagit Conservation District, which provides a unique opportunity for local residents to learn about and explore local watersheds, including an introduction to water quality, stormwater pollution, stream ecology, life cycle of salmon, values and functions of estuaries, local shellfish resources, climate change, geology, soils, agriculture, low impact development, backyard conservation practices, on-site sewage system maintenance, and much more! The program is designed to demonstrate the interrelationship of watershed health, aesthetics, recreation, economics and citizen behavior; and provides residents with a vehicle to get involved individually and collectively to protect and improve the health of our local streams and rivers. In exchange for 40 hours of training, Watershed Masters pledge to complete 40 hours of volunteer service in our community over the next two years. Each individual volunteer decides how to spend these hours.

The Skagit Conservation District and partners, including the City of Mount Vernon, City of Burlington, City of Sedro-Woolley, City of Anacortes, Skagit County, and the WA Conservation Commission, would like to thank and commend the participants of the Fall 2011 Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program for their involvement and commitment to help protect our legacy of clean water in Skagit County:

- Andrea Bachman
- Richard Brown
- Anne Chase-Stapleton
- Ann Childs
- Diego Chino
- Carla Glassman
- Renee' Johnson
- Lori Keuffel
- Richelle Potter
- Jim Roberts
- Dennis Ruschmann
- Melissa Thompson
- Brittany Weiss
- Marci Williams
- Terry Williams
- Seth Young



A group of Fall 2011 Watershed Masters gather on the beach at Bay View State Park during a class field tour. Front row: Kristi Carpenter (SCD), Terry Williams & Renee' Johnson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Brittany Weiss, Ann Childs, Jim Roberts, & Richelle Potter; Back Row: Andrea Bachman, Tina Hash, Rich Brown, Carla Glassman, Melissa Thompson, Marci Williams, & Anne Chase-Stapleton

The Watershed Masters Volunteer training program is a great way for local residents to learn more about the place we live and to make a difference right here in our own community and neighborhoods. The course is offered each fall, with volunteer activities occurring year-round. **For information about the Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program, please contact Kristi Carpenter, Skagit Conservation District, at (360) 428-4313 or email: [kristi@skagitcd.org](mailto:kristi@skagitcd.org)**

## Volunteer Spotlight: Sue Mitchell

Hats off to Sue Mitchell and her husband David Saxton, who opted to try a low impact development technique when building their new home near Friday Creek in the Alger area. To avoid excavating the site and disturbing natural vegetation, loss of topsoil, and potential impacts to the creek from construction, Sue and David installed a Pin Foundation system instead of the traditional concrete slab foundation. Installing a pin foundation is far different than the normal process of grading a home site and excavating for a foundation. Pin foundations involve pouring concrete into custom designed forms that create a home's foundation, then driving 5 to 9 foot long steel pins diagonally through both sides of the concrete to anchor it securely to the ground. The advantage of the Pin Foundation system is that original soil is preserved without being disturbed, so historic storm water flows are also preserved, eliminating erosion and other run-off problems common to construction sites.

In addition to being busy building her new home, Sue helped spearhead the new Friday Creek Habitat Stewards group this year. She also completed the Watershed Masters program and participates in the Samish Stream Team Program.



Sue Mitchell demonstrates how to drive in the steel pins that will create her home's foundation using the Pin Foundation method. Low impact construction techniques, such as the Pin Foundation method, have been gaining popularity in new construction and renovation projects throughout the Pacific Northwest.

## Help Fund a Park Bench in Memory of Pat Hurley

Friends of Pat Hurley have established a memorial fund in honor of Pat for his many contributions to our community. Memorial funds will be used to purchase a commemorative bench accompanied by a bronze plaque. Pat passed away on June 12, 2011. The bench will be installed by Skagit County Parks on a walking path which runs from Fruitdale Road in Sedro-Woolley to the Northern State Recreation Area – a trail often walked by Pat with his good friend and fellow volunteer, Stephen Farmer. Pat was the recipient of the Skagit Conservation District's Inspiration Award in 2010 for his community stewardship and volunteerism. Since 2008, Pat participated in numerous volunteer activities, including the Watershed Masters, Marine Biotoxin, Skagit Stream Team and Storm Team Programs, prepping and planting the Kulshan Demonstration Bird and Butterfly Garden, planting the Dave Brookings Rain Garden, and helping with numerous workshops and community events. It is also estimated that Pat planted 1,000 trees at stream enhancement projects hosted by the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and the Skagit Land Trust.

Your donation to support the Pat Hurley memorial bench can be made at any Skagit State Bank branch to the "Pat Hurley Memorial Fund" or a check may be sent directly to:

**"Pat Hurley Memorial Fund"**  
c/o Skagit Sate Bank, P.O. Box 432, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284



Pat touched the lives of many fellow volunteers – his legacy will live on in the forests and gardens he helped plant. Pictured (from L to R): Ani Gurnee, Pat Hurley, Stephen Farmer, and Kristi Carpenter (SCD) prepare the soil for the new Kulshan Bird and Butterfly Garden.

# STEWARDSHIP



## Welcome 2011/12 SKAGIT STREAM TEAM VOLUNTEERS!

### Bay View

David Alger  
Ed Lawler  
Lachelle Lorentz  
Kyle Lorentz  
Jesus Perez-Linarea  
Melissa Thompson

### Clyde Creek

Bill Carey  
Lachelle Lorentz  
Kyle Lorentz  
Bertis Rasco  
George Viverette

### Fisher Creek

Scott Doman  
Shirley Doman  
Peter Dowden  
Larry Labo  
Henry Nyland  
Jim Roberts  
Carol Schwartz  
Dean Schwartz

### Gages Slough

Robyn Blankinship  
Donna Helgeson

### Joe Leary Slough

Scott Adams  
Donald Brassington  
Doug Edwards  
Luanne Goodrich  
Jim Johnson  
Jack Middleton  
Laura Paise  
Robert Pare

### Kulshan Creek

Gena DiLabio  
Terri Dix  
Maria Magaña  
Alec McDougall  
Sandy McDougall

### Nookachamps Creek

Bill Bowen  
George Bullock  
Merry Byrum  
Jerry Corrion  
Stephen Farmer  
James Fukuyama  
Luanne Goodrich  
Sarah Huntington  
Hal Lee  
Hella Lee  
Richard Oickle  
John Patton  
Sally Saxton  
Joyce Siniscal

### No Name Slough

Erin Langley  
Ed Lawler  
Jesse Otti  
Nate Schuh  
James Stavig  
Melissa Thomspson

### Samish Bay

Rich Brown  
Kyle Deerkop  
Stephen Farmer  
Steve Goodrich  
Deryl Hart  
Jim Kunzmann  
Dick Lease  
Elaine Lease  
Marci Maulden  
Sue Mitchell  
Joyce Moon  
Dick Redmond  
Jeanette Redmond  
Tom Schmidt

### Trumpeter Basin

Sheila Berry  
Rhonda Jennings  
Rebecca Love  
Rod Miller  
Michele Morse  
Frank Repplier  
Jack Sekora

### Storm Team (No Name Slough/ Bay View Watersheds)

Bill Bowen  
Kurt Buchanan  
Kyle Deerkop  
Stephen Farmer  
Lin Folsom  
James Fukuyama  
Pete Haase  
Kyle Lorentz  
Jack Middleton  
Patrick O'Hearn  
Robert Pare  
Jack Sekora



Stream Team Volunteers Dick and Elaine Lease enjoying the sunshine on one of their first sampling days of the 2011-2012 season in the Lower Samish Watershed.

**Skagit Stream Team is a partnership of local citizens, Skagit Conservation District, Padilla Bay Research Reserve, City of Anacortes, City of Mount Vernon, City of Burlington, and Skagit County.**

## How Clean is your Neighborhood Stream?

Join us on **Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm** at the Padilla Bay Research Reserve for an annual water quality update on the health of our local streams. Water quality data collected by Skagit County and the Skagit Stream Team and Storm Team volunteers for monitoring year 2010/11 will be presented at this annual meeting. Streams monitored by the Skagit Stream Team over this time period included the Samish River, No Name Slough, Bay View drainage, Joe Leary Slough, Gages Slough, Nookachamps Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Basin, Fisher Creek, and Brickyard Creek. In addition, the Storm Team sampled 19 stations in the No Name Slough and Bay View area during storm events to help identify fecal coliform hot spots and to assess water quality during high flows. For more information or if you would like a copy of the 2010/11 Annual Stream Team Report, contact Kristi Carpenter, Skagit Conservation District, 428-4313 or email: [Kristi@skagitcd.org](mailto:Kristi@skagitcd.org)

### Why do we care about the health of our streams?

- Streams and rivers contribute to our health and the health of our community.
- We want our community to be beautiful, healthy, and spectacular.
- It is something that we, as responsible members of our community, can do.
- If our water systems are not kept clean, numerous types of wildlife and aquatic life may become threatened and incapable of surviving.
- The ecological diversity provided by healthy streams, rivers, and shorelines can contribute to a healthy tourist economy.
- There are benefits to personal mental and physical health that are granted by living in a clean and beautiful natural environment.
- It is important to protect our resources for our benefit and the benefit of future generations.



## Alger Improvement Club Begins Work to Restore Silver Creek

Hats off to the Alger Improvement Club who have initiated a demonstration stream enhancement project on Silver Creek, which runs through their property located off the Old Hwy 99 in north Skagit County. As the largest tributary to Friday Creek, Silver Creek has traditionally been one of the most productive salmon spawning streams in the Samish Watershed. Concerned about maintaining the health of the creek, the group decided to take part in Skagit County's Natural Resource Stewardship Program (NRSP), a non-regulatory volunteer based incentive grants program available to local landowners interested in helping improve the streams in our community. The project was initiated this fall with the removal of invasive blackberries, which were out-competing the native species that would naturally be found near the stream. Left untended, invasive species, like blackberries, can become the sole member of the riparian zone, decreasing bank stability and diversity. This area is scheduled to be replanted March 10<sup>th</sup> at a community planting party. The restored riparian area will improve bank stability, provide shade and cover, enhance critical fish and wildlife habitat, protect water quality, improve aesthetic values of the property, and benefit the overall health of the Samish Watershed.

Support for this project is also being provided by the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards, Skagit Conservation District, and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group. For information on the NRSP program, contact Emily Derenne, Skagit County Public Works, at 336-9400 or email [emilyjd@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:emilyjd@co.skagit.wa.us) or visit the website: [www.skagitcounty.net/NRSP](http://www.skagitcounty.net/NRSP)

## STREAM TEAM PROGRAM ADDS CLYDE CREEK IN ANACORTES!

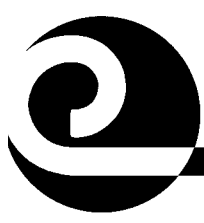
A new partnership with the City of Anacortes has provided an opportunity to expand the Skagit Stream Team program to include four additional water quality-monitoring stations located on Clyde Creek in Anacortes. The new program was kicked off this fall and was designed to educate and involve local citizens in the protection and stewardship of Clyde Creek and to gather baseline water quality data for the watershed.

Kyle and Lachelle Lorentz collect water samples on Clyde Creek in Anacortes.



Invasive blackberries that were out-competing native species were removed in the fall along this stretch of Silver Creek, a priority salmon spawning tributary of Friday Creek in the Samish Watershed.





# SCD Annual Plant Sale

## About the Plant Materials Center

The Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center (PMC) is owned by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts and provides high quality conservation grade plants, shrubs, and services that benefit natural resources. The 60-acre bare-root nursery located in Bow, where the SCD holds its native plant sale every year, produces over 70 species of quality conservation seedlings and cuttings. Once the seedlings are lifted, they are kept in cold storage until the day of our plant sale. The PMC provides plants to conservation districts around the state of Washington.

## Purpose of the Plant Sale

The purpose of the plant sale is to promote natural resource conservation by providing quality, conservation-grade plants at wholesale prices to the public for use in conservation related projects. Some examples of conservation projects include erosion control, riparian restoration, reforestation, backyard habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and wildfire mitigation.

## Availability of Plants

Every year, the SCD purchases a large number of plants from the PMC to sell at our annual plant sale. The decision of what type and how many seedlings to buy is based on the previous year's sales and what is available depending on the cultivating success of certain species that year. While most of the plants come from the PMC and are grown on site, some are brokered stock, which means that they are contracted out and grown elsewhere. Because we don't always know what our supply will be, especially if certain species fail or end up being too small to sell, we cannot guarantee that all the species listed in the newsletter or on the order form will be available for pre-orders or during the open sales. Pre-orders will be filled in the order received, and open sale orders will be on a first come, first served basis.

## Open Sale Days

For organization and budget purposes, our plant sale is run on a first come, first served basis. Sometimes the lines can get long and the atmosphere can be hectic. We ask that you please be patient with the staff and our many volunteers who work very hard to make the sale run as smoothly as possible. Each year holds new challenges that we try our best to adjust to and accommodate for. The SCD welcomes suggestions on how we can improve the process on sale days. Thank you for your patience.

## Remember

Please note that these are conservation-grade plants. They are intended for shelterbelts, erosion control, wildlife habitat and other conservation purposes. Most are sold as bareroot seedlings and are generally small; therefore, high hauling capacity is NOT necessary.

## Payment

A 50% deposit must accompany all pre-orders, and the balance of the order must be paid at time of pick up. Open sale orders must be paid for at the time of purchase.

**We are unable to accept credit or debit cards, so please bring your checkbook or cash.**

## OPEN SALE DATES

*(First Come, First Served)*

**Friday, March 23, 2012 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Saturdays, March 24 and April 14 – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Location: WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center  
16564 Bradley Road, Bow

**DIRECTIONS TO PLANT MATERIALS CENTER:** From I-5 take the Cook Road Exit (#232). Go west on Cook Road. Cross Chuckanut Drive and Avon Allen Road. Cook Road will become Bradley Road after Avon-Allen. Continue west for about one mile. The PMC will be on your left. If you come to a sharp right turn, you have gone too far. (See map at right)



**DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!**  
For purchases of \$500 or more (before sales tax), there is a 15% discount.

## PRE-ORDER OPTION!

**Presale orders will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2, 2012**

### Required Minimum Pre-Order:

\$100 before taxes with a 50% deposit at the time your order is placed  
See order form insert to pre-order.

Pick-up date for pre-orders is Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the WACD Plant Materials Center

If necessary, arrangements can be made for pickup on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> during open sale hours.

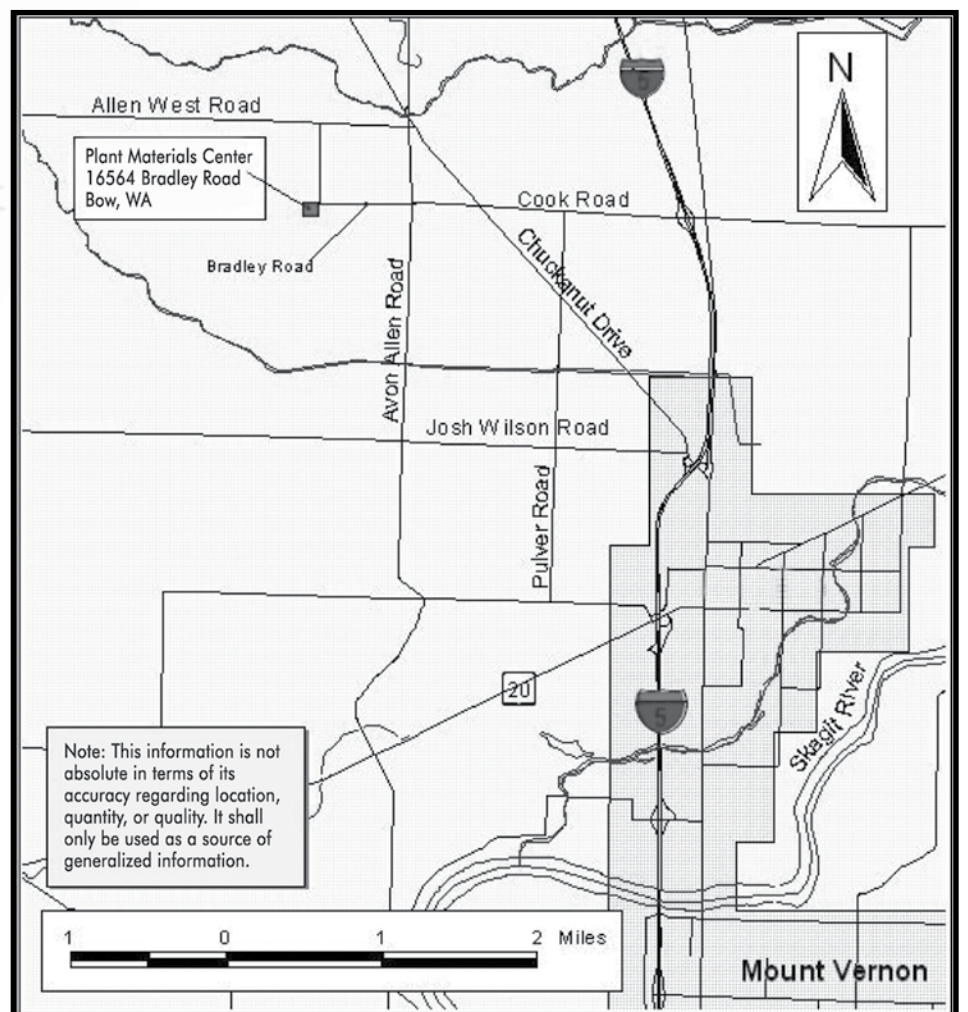
Questions? Call **Sue** or **Cora** at (360) 428-4313

## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT OUR PLANT SALE?

*We need your help!*

**Thursday, March 22 – 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Friday, March 23 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Saturdays, March 24 and April 14 – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Please contact **Jenny Hinderman** at (360) 428-4313 or email [jenny@skagitcd.org](mailto:jenny@skagitcd.org) to sign up.



# Skagit CD 2011 Native Plant Sale: PLANT DESCRIPTIONS AND PRICING

Common/Latin Name Genus Species	Max. Ht	Classification & Species Characteristics (see key)	Classification & Species Characteristics (see key)	Est. size	Bundle Price
<b>EVERGREEN/CONIFER TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 25 EXCEPT AS NOTED**)</b>					
*1. Cedar, Alaska Yellow <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>	P-1 100'		Prefers full sun and cool humid climate, tolerates partial shade. Uses: boat & house building, carving, weaving	12"	\$32.50 for 25
2. Cedar, Western Red <i>Thuja plicata</i>	P-1 200'		Favors moist sites. Uses: riparian plantings, wildlife shelter & food, lumber	18"	\$27.50 for 25
3. Fir, Douglas <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	2-0 300'		Favors acidic, well-drained soils. Uses: windbreaks, lumber, wildlife food	18"	\$15 for 25
4. Fir, Grand <i>Abies grandis</i>	2-0 200'		Grows in moist to dry sites. Uses: wildlife food & shelter, Christmas trees	12"	\$15 for 25
5. Fir, Noble <i>Abies procera</i>	P-1 100'		Favors dry sites & well-drained acidic soils. Uses: wildlife food & cover, Christmas trees	10"	\$27.50 for 25
6. Hemlock, Western <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	P-1 200'		Grows in moist, well drained sites. Uses: wildlife habitat, cover & food, pulp	16"	\$30 for 25
7. **Madrone <i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	plug 90'		Grows in dry, sunny, often rocky sites; low to middle elevations; white flowers & red berries. Uses: wildlife cover; fuel	plug	**\$6 <b>EACH</b>
8. Pine, Shore <i>Pinus contorta</i>	2-0 100'		Grows in dry to wet sites. Uses: windbreak, wildlife food, shelter, fuel	12"	\$15 for 25
*9. Sequoia, Giant <i>Sequoiaedron gigantea</i>	plug 300'		Grows in sunny sites and prefers humid climate with dry summers.	8" plug	\$27.50 for 25
10. Spruce, Sitka <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	P-1 200'		Favors moist acidic soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter, lumber	18"	\$27.50 for 25
<b>DECIDUOUS TREE SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)</b>					
11. Aspen, Quaking <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	2-0 80'		Grows in mineral soils & exposed sites, tolerates wet soils. Uses: wildlife food & habitat, fire break, erosion control	18"	\$17 for 10
12. Birch, Paper <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	2-0 80'		Favors moderate to wet sites with loamy soils. Uses: wildlife food & shelter, fuel	36"	\$18 for 10
13. Hazlenut, Beaked <i>Corylus cornuta</i>	2-0 20'		Grows in moist soil at low to mid elevations. Uses: edible nuts, wildlife shelter	12-18"	\$28.50 for 10
14. Maple, Sugar <i>Acer saccharum</i>	2-0 80'		Grows in moist soil conditions in uplands and valleys. Uses: syrup, furniture	12"	\$28.50 for 10
15. Maple, Vine <i>Acer circinatum</i>	2-0 25'		Grows in dry to wet areas in low to mid elevations. Uses: wildlife shelter	12"	\$17 for 10
<b>SHRUB SEEDLINGS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10)</b>					
16. Currant, Red Flowering <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	1-0 10'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food	12"	\$14 for 10
17. Dogwood, Kousa <i>Cornus kousa</i>	2-0 20'		Grows in average moisture, somewhat drought resistant. Uses: wildlife food	18"	\$28.50 for 10
18. Dogwood, Red Osier <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	1-0 20'		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: wildlife food & habitat, erosion control	12"	\$14 for 10
19. Elderberry, Blue <i>Sambucus Glauca</i>	crowns 15'		Grows in dry to moist sites in open areas to partial shade. Uses: food & wildlife habitat	crowns	\$18 for 10
20. Huckleberry, Evergreen <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	plug 13'		Grows in dry to moist well-drained soils. Uses: edible berries	plug	\$47 for 10
21. Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-vrsi</i>	plug 6"		Ground cover that prefers sandy, well-drained, exposed sites on dry slopes. Uses: wildlife habitat	plug	\$25 for 10
22. Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	2-0 10'		Favors well-drained moist sites. Has colorful flowers. Uses: wildlife food	12"	\$17 for 10
23. Oregon Grape, Low <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	2-0 2'		Grows in dry to fairly moist sites. Uses: wildlife food, food	6"	\$17 for 10
24. Oregon Grape, Tall <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	2-0 5'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food, medicine, erosion control	12"	\$17 for 10
25. Plum, Indian <i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	2-0 10'		Grows in dry to moist sites & loamy soil. Uses: wildlife food	18"	\$18 for 10
26. Rose, Nootka <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	1-0 10'		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food & shelter, hedgerows, erosion control	12"	\$14 for 10
27. Salal <b>NOT AVAILABLE</b> <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	plug 6"		Grows in dry to moist sites. Uses: wildlife food, food, floral greens, erosion control	plug	\$16 for 10
28. Thimbleberry <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	1-0 10'		Grows in well-drained soils in mid elevations. Uses: edible berries	12"	\$18 for 10
29. Willow, Hooker <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	whip 20'		Grows in moist to wet sites. Uses: erosion control, wetland restoration	36" whip	\$14 for 10
30. Willow, Pacific <i>Salix lasiandra</i>	whip 15-45'		Grows in wet to moist sites. Uses: erosion control, windbreaks, wetland restoration, wildlife food & habitat	36" whip	\$14 for 10
31. Willow, Sitka <i>Salix sitchensis</i>	whip 15'		Grows in moist to dry sites. Uses: erosion control	36" whip	\$14 for 10
<b>WETLAND &amp; RIPARIAN PLANTS (SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 10, EXCEPT AS NOTED**)</b>					
32. **Common Camas <i>Camassia quamash</i>	bulb 28"		Grows in wet to moist soil. Has pale to deep blue flowers. Uses: food	bulb	\$3.10 <b>EACH</b>
33. **Cattail <i>Typha latifolia</i>	bulb 6'		Grows in wet sites. Uses: wildlife food & habitat, removes pollutants	bulb	\$3.10 <b>EACH</b>
34. Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	1-0 13'		Grows in damp places along streams. Has white flowers with red seeds.	12"	\$18 for 10
35. **Dagger Leaf Rush <i>Juncus ensifolius</i>	bulb 2'		Grows in wet soil in low to mid elevations in sandy & muddy soils. Uses: wildlife food, cover & nesting	bulb	\$1.20 <b>EACH</b>
36. **Small Fruited Bulrush <i>Scirpus microcarpus</i>	bulb 3'		Grows in wet, moist sites at low to mid elevation. Uses: nutrient removal	bulb	\$1.65 <b>EACH</b>
37. **Tapertip Rush <i>Juncus acuminatus</i>	bulb 32"		Grows in wet soil at low to mid elevation. Uses: wildlife food	bulb	\$1.20 <b>EACH</b>
38. Slough Sedge <i>Carex atherodes</i>	bulb 150cm		Prefers wet environments such as riverbanks, marshes, wet, shallow meadows & roadside ditches. Uses: weaving, erosion control, bank stabilization; food for wildlife and nesting cover	bulb	\$1.20 <b>EACH</b>
39. Spirea, Douglas <i>Spiraea douglasii</i>	2-0 6'		Grows in margins of ponds and meadows, open space, low elevation. Uses: erosion control & wildlife habitat	18"	\$18 for 10
40. Twinberry <i>Lonicera involucrate</i>	1-0 6'		Grows in wetlands, especially in coastal areas, sea level to mountain forests. Uses: wildlife food	12"	\$18 for 10

**KEY:** Evergreen deciduous full sun mostly sunny partial sun partial shade full shade seed flower fruit \* Non-native plant

## Choosing the Right Plants: A BUYER'S GUIDE



Many of our customers purchase plants in order to remedy a specific problem or to meet a particular landscape goal. Below are some examples of landscape problems and goals with suggested plant species to help meet these goals. The plant species listed include only those plants that will be available at our plant sale. Additional informational materials will be available at the plant sale.

### WETLAND RESTORATION

Small Fruited Bulrush  
Cattail  
Red Osier Dogwood  
Pacific Ninebark  
Dagger Leaf Rush  
Tapertip Rush  
Slough Sedge  
Douglas Spirea  
Twinberry  
Willow species



### EROSION CONTROL

Quaking Aspen  
Red Osier Dogwood  
Oregon Grape  
Kinnikinnick  
Nootka Rose  
Salal  
Douglas Spirea  
Willow species

### ATTRACTING WILDLIFE

Red Flowering Currant  
Kousa Dogwood  
Blue Elderberry  
Oregon Grape  
Beaked Hazelnut  
Evergreen Huckleberry  
Kinnikinnick  
Pacific Ninebark  
Indian Plum  
Nootka Rose  
Salal  
Douglas Spirea  
Thimbleberry  
Twinberry



### FIRE RESISTANT

Quaking Aspen  
Paper Birch  
Red Flowering Currant  
Kousa Dogwood  
Red Osier Dogwood  
Blue Elderberry  
Oregon Grape  
Madrone  
Sugar Maple  
Vine Maple  
Shore Pine  
Indian Plum  
Mock Orange  
Nootka Rose  
Salal  
Thimbleberry



**Thank you to our conservation newsletter sponsors!**

Skagit Conservation News sponsorships cost \$50 a year for business names or \$100 for business cards and are seen by over 4,000 readers twice a year.

To become a conservation newsletter sponsor, please contact Cora at 360-428-4313.

The Skagit Conservation District salutes the following businesses as Skagit Conservation News sponsors.

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We wish to thank the businesses and individuals who help to sponsor this publication of the Skagit Conservation District News.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.skagitcd.org](http://www.skagitcd.org)

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*District Staff*

- Carolyn Kelly, District Manager
- Cora Amburn-Lijek, Staff Assistant
- Susan Bridgman, Administrative Assistant
- Kristi Carpenter, Public Information & Education Coordinator
- Al Craney, Forester
- Jennifer Hinderman, Firewise Program Coordinator & Resource Technician
- Joe Holtcamp, CREP/GIS Coordinator
- Lori Kyle, Resource Monitoring Specialist
- Cindy Pierce, Youth Education & Data Information Coordinator
- John Schuh, Livestock, Small Farm Planning & Technical Program Coordinator
- Tom Slocum, Professional Engineer

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**Skagit River Steel & Recycling**

Charlie Urbick  
President

1265 So. Anacortes St.  
P.O. Box 376 • Burlington, WA 98233  
(360) 757-6096 FAX (360) 757-7157  
1-800-869-7097  
E-mail: charlesu@skagitriversteel.com



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President

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**SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2012 SUPERVISOR ELECTION**

The Skagit Conservation District (SCD) will hold a public poll election on Tuesday, March 20 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2021 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA for an expiring Board of Supervisor position.

**Voters:** Any registered voter who resides within the conservation district's boundary, which is the same as the boundaries of Skagit County, may vote in the SCD election in person or by absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots will be available from Feb. 22 through Tues., March 13, 4:30 p.m. and may be requested by calling 360-428-4313 or emailing [skagitcd@skagitcd.org](mailto:skagitcd@skagitcd.org). Requests must be received by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, and completed ballots must be received by the SCD no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

**Candidates:** Candidates must be registered voters, live within the conservation district's boundary, and file an information form with the SCD by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 17. For a candidate's name to appear on the ballot, a valid nomination petition signed by 25 registered Skagit County voters must also be filed. Information forms and nomination petitions are available by calling the SCD at 360-428-4313 or emailing [skagitcd@skagitcd.org](mailto:skagitcd@skagitcd.org). Completed information forms and petitions must be received by the SCD by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, 2012.

The SCD Board is a governing body of five volunteers (i.e. unpaid) who oversee the work of the SCD, which provides voluntary, incentive based options that support working landscapes while protecting and enhancing our natural resource land base. Three of the Board Supervisors are elected by the voters of Skagit County, and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC).

For more information about becoming a candidate, contact Cora at 360-428-4313 or email [cora@skagitcd.org](mailto:cora@skagitcd.org) or visit the Washington State Conservation Commission website <http://www.scc.wa.gov/>.



**SCD Board Meetings are held at 2021 E. College Way on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 a.m. and are open to the public. Please call (360) 428-4313 to verify meeting dates.**



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**IMPORTANT  
2012 Election Dates**

**Candidate Filing Deadline**  
4:30 p.m. Fri., Feb. 17, 2012

**Absentee Ballots Available**  
8 a.m. Wed., Feb. 22  
to 4:30 p.m. Tues., March 13

**Absentee Ballot Request Deadline**  
4:30 p.m. Tues., March 13

**Public Poll Election**  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues., March 20  
At 2021 E. College Way, Mt. Vernon

**Absentee Ballot Receipt Deadline**  
4 p.m. Tues., March 20

Don't forget  
to vote!  
Tuesday,  
March 20,  
2012



SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
2021 E. COLLEGE WAY, SUITE 203  
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273-2373  
PHONE: (360) 428-4313  
Website: [skagitcd.org](http://skagitcd.org)

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